

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A system and method for creating a confederacy of the present invention. The  
5 inventive system includes a network and a plurality of devices coupled thereto, with  
at least one of the devices having a resource to which access is desired. In  
accordance with the invention, an agent is provided on at least one of the devices for  
automatically effecting communication with respect to the resource between the  
device having the resource and at least one of the other devices coupled to the  
10 network. In the illustrative application, the network is an intranet, the resource is  
embedded web content and an agent resides on each device connected to the network.  
The agents implement code for establishing and maintaining the confederacy. For  
example, the agents allow for new devices to join the confederacy, provide a  
consistent view of embedded web content, cache an object value from a device in the  
15 confederacy, allow each member to act as a portal, monitor changes at the other  
devices in the confederacy, verify that a member device is active and in the  
confederacy and perform other functions.